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5 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
6 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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8 JANE DOE,

No. C 07-05596 SI

9 Plaintiff,

10 v.

**ORDER RE: PLAINTIFF'S RECENTLY
FILED MOTIONS [Docket Nos. 252, 255]**

11 CITY OF SAN MATEO, et al.,

12 Defendants.
13 _____/

14 On March 19, 2009, the Court issued an order granting in part and denying in part defendants'
15 motion to dismiss plaintiff's second amended complaint. [Docket No. 215] Plaintiff subsequently filed
16 five letter briefs seeking reconsideration of various rulings in the Court's March 19 order. The Court
17 addressed plaintiff's letter briefs in an order dated April 16, 2009. Plaintiff has now filed two more
18 letter briefs.

19 First, plaintiff seeks reconsideration of the Court's order dismissing the claims against Officer
20 Joe Pierucci because plaintiff failed to effectuate service of process on this defendant. Plaintiff argues
21 that it was unreasonable of the Court to dismiss the claims with prejudice. Plaintiff is advised that the
22 claims against Pierucci were dismissed *without* prejudice. See Mar. 19 Order, at 4, 25. Plaintiff's
23 request for reconsideration is DENIED. [Docket No. 255]

24 Second, plaintiff argues that in her Second Amended Complaint ("SAC"), she intended allege
25 claims for conspiracy under both 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and 42 U.S.C. § 1985(3), even though she alleged
26 these claims in the same causes of action. Plaintiff now seeks a ruling on her claims for conspiracy
27 under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff did not allege any specific facts in support of her causes of action for
28 conspiracy and it was not evident to the Court that plaintiff intended to allege claims for civil conspiracy

1 in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983. In addition, it was improper for plaintiff to allege these causes of
2 action without leave of this Court, as she did not allege conspiracy under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 in her
3 previous complaints. *See* Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 15(a)(2); *see also* Charles Alan Wright et al., *Federal*
4 *Practice and Procedure* § 1484 (“In general, if an amendment that cannot be made as of right is served
5 without obtaining the court’s leave or the opposing party’s consent, it is without legal effect and any
6 new matter it contains will not be considered unless the amendment is resubmitted for the court’s
7 approval.”). If plaintiff wishes to amend her complaint to allege conspiracy under 42 U.S.C. § 1983,
8 she may file a motion for leave to file a third amended complaint. She is advised that to allege a
9 conspiracy under § 1983, she must show “an agreement or ‘meeting of the minds’ to violate
10 constitutional rights.” *Franklin v. Fox*, 312 F.3d 423,441 (9th Cir. 2002) (citing *United Steelworkers*
11 *of Am. v. Phelps Dodge Corp.*, 865 F.2d 1539, 1540-41 (9th Cir.1989) (en banc)). “To be liable, each
12 participant in the conspiracy need not know the exact details of the plan, but each participant must at
13 least share the common objective of the conspiracy.” *Id.* at 441. In addition, a conspiracy to violate
14 constitutional rights must be predicated on a viable underlying constitutional claim. *See Thornton v.*
15 *City of St. Helens*, 425 F.3d 1158, 1168 (9th Cir. 2005). For example, if plaintiff cannot allege a claim
16 for unlawful discrimination, she will be not be able to allege a claim for conspiracy to discriminate.

17 Accordingly, the Court DENIES plaintiff’s request for a ruling on her conspiracy claims.
18 [Docket No. 252]

19 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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21 Dated: April 29, 2009

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24 SUSAN ILLSTON
25 United States District Judge
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